

tions of embryology are especially authoritative in the realm of bones and joints. The new (1955) *Noma Anatomica* terminology is used with English translations wherever possible and synonyms wherever necessary. Eponyms are avoided in the text, but a glossary of commonly encountered eponyms is provided as an appendix.

The advanced student of anatomy will appreciate the numerous bibliographical references to the recent literature. Although this book will not replace the longer standard systematic texts (such as the one by another Gray), it may well relegate the latter group to the status of reference books.

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ESSAYS ON THE FIRST HUNDRED YEARS OF ANAESTHESIA—Volume 1—W. Stanley Sykes, M.B.E., M.B., B. Chir. (Cantab.), D.A., Late Anesthetist to the General Infirmary at Leeds, to the Hospital for Women and St. James' Hospital, Leeds, to the Leeds Dental Hospital, to the Halifax Royal Infirmary and to the Dewsbury General Hospital. Distributed in the United States by The Williams & Wilkins Co., Baltimore 2, Md., 1960. 171 pages, \$7.00.

One of Macaulay's essays opens with the statement, "We do not recall ever having seen an equal amount of matter which pleased us less." The reverse could be said about this delightful book. It consists of a series of essays on the history of anesthesia, not continuous but yet connected, which really cover the entire early story of the subject. Dr. Sykes, himself an "anaesthetist," writes in a delightfully witty style which would make his book pleasant reading even for a layman, and still he is a precise historian who has delved into the sources and has documented all his statements. There are numerous illustrations which enlighten the text appropriately.

Although this volume seems complete it is apparently Volume I of a series. One will look forward with interest to further essays on this subject.

ARTHUR L. BLOOMFIELD, M.D.

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DIAGNOSTIC ROENTGENOLOGY OF THE DIGESTIVE TRACT WITHOUT CONTRAST MEDIA—A Mount Sinai Hospital Monograph—Bernard S. Wolf, M.D., Director, Department of Radiology, The Mount Sinai Hospital, New York; Associate Clinical Professor of Radiology, Columbia University; Mansho T. Khilnani, M.B., Associate Fellow in Radiology, The Mount Sinai Hospital, New York; and Arthur Lautkin, M.D., Associate Radiologist, The Mount Sinai Hospital, New York; Associate Radiologist, Flower Fifth Avenue Hospital; Associate Clinical Professor, New York Medical College. Grune & Stratton, Inc., 381 Fourth Avenue, New York 16, N. Y., 1960. 180 pages, \$8.75.

This monograph presents in orderly fashion a discussion of the diagnostic value of plain roentgenograms of the abdomen. Emphasis is placed on those conditions which may be unsuspected clinically. Mechanical obstruction and perforated viscus are therefore not included.

The four sections commence with general principles, and proceed through gastric, small bowel, and colonic lesions. The discussion under general principles is a good summary of basic physiology and anatomy of the intestinal tract. The attainment of as much information as possible from plain films of the abdomen is important and should be pursued; however, to be realistic, many lesions are not clearly delineated even with contrast studies. In general, most of the lesions discussed have to be confirmed with contrast studies.

The chapter on gastric lesions is divided into the normal stomach, gastric neoplasms, benign peptic ulcer and miscellaneous conditions. As in the first chapter, the discussion is followed by illustrations depicting the principles of the text. Intrinsic lesions such as gastric carcinoma are not

clearly separable from extrinsic masses by the illustrations. However, there is good correlation between the plain films and subsequent barium studies.

The section on the small bowel includes discussion and illustration of the duodenum, normal small bowel, tumors, inflammatory disease, vascular disorders, and miscellaneous small bowel lesions. The lesions described are not at all convincing on the plain films.

The final chapter on the colon contains subsections on the normal colon, carcinoma, ulcerative colitis, and miscellaneous lesions. The author feels that plain films are superior to contrast studies in acute ulcerative colitis due to the obliteration of functional changes from the nonphysiologic distention required at barium enema.

Organization of the material is simple and effective. The text is easily readable, references adequate, and reproduction of illustrations good.

The monograph is recommended to residents in radiology and to practicing radiologists as a reference. To physicians not experienced in radiology, this material might lead to gross over-reading in many instances.

JOHN H. HEALD, M.D.

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MINORITY, A—A Report on the Life of the Male Homosexual in Great Britain—Gordon Westwood; Longmans, Green & Co., Inc., 119 West 40th Street, New York 18, N. Y., 1960. 216 pages, \$7.00.

According to the flyleaf this book contains the results of the most extensive research on the subject of male homosexuality yet to have been published. Over a period of two years the author met and talked with more than 100 homosexuals and obtained factual information on their family background, social behavior, and sexual activities. The author makes the comment that in no other field of scientific research is there to be encountered the antipathy and the obstacles which one sees in any aspect of sexual research, particularly that involving the sexual deviations. He points out how very little is known about homosexuality and about those who commit homosexual acts and what a dearth of material there is available on the social and familial antecedents of homosexuals.

One hundred twenty-seven homosexuals were interviewed. Information was obtained on their family backgrounds, relationships to parents and siblings, the nature and character of their early homosexual experiences, extent of homosexual acts and interests, and the nature and quality of the adjustment or lack of same to their homosexuality. The author makes the valuable point that homosexuality is not just a sexual problem alone, that it forces those who practice it into a minority group which obeys the same rules of social and psychological behavior as do minority groups of a religious and racial character. The sample has the value that it embraces persons of mixed educational, work, and social backgrounds and, in contradistinction to other studies of this character, interviews and contacts subjects who lead useful and productive lives.

While there is a real dearth in the literature of scientific studies of the antecedents and personality development of any statistically significant sample of persons with paraphiliac sexual interests, this study is far from meeting the need. The interviews were not done in sufficient depth and the anamnestic material gained, while valuable, leaves large areas of personality and social orientation unexplored and untapped. A definitive study of this type has yet to be done, but anyone contemplating such a study could obtain valuable information and leads from this book.

C. W. WAHL, M.D.